## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: APRIL 17, 1998

CONTACT: Michael D. Rivo, Deputy City Attorney, Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit, 533-5500, or Lauri Twomey, Director of Media Relations: 235-5725; Pager: 232-2237, #6273

## MAN WHO DEFRAUDED POLITICAL CANDIDATES AND PRINT SHOPS TO BE SENTENCED MAY 12

Walter Carlos Moore, charged with defrauding San Diego political candidates and print shops in 1995 and 1996, was found guilty Wednesday of 18 counts of theft by a San Diego Municipal Court jury.

The San Diego City Attorney's Office filed charges against Moore in December 1996. An investigation by the City Attorney's Office revealed that Moore, who did business as Action Advertising, collected money up-front from local candidates for campaign materials he never delivered. Moore was also charged with theft for failing to pay print shops for campaign signs he did order.

Moore, who also uses the name Charles Moore, was charged with defrauding nine candidates and three print shops of more than \$19,000 from December 1995 through August 1996. One of the victims included a candidate for governor of the State of Washington, whose campaign paid Moore \$3,000 for campaign signs he never delivered.

Moore was arrested on similar charges in October 1997 by the Rialto Police Department. He has been held in San Diego County Jail since January 1998, on \$50,000 bail. Sentencing for Moore is scheduled on May 12, 1998 at 8:30 a.m. before San Diego Municipal Court Judge Lillian Y. Lim, who presided over the trial.

The City Attorney's Office believes Moore may have defrauded other candidates and print shops in San Diego not named in the case. Please call the City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit at 533-5500 if you have information regarding other possible victims.

# # #